

BLOCK VI: DOMESTIC CHANGE OF RELEVANCE TO CIA

Block VI examines contemporary domestic trends, problems and issues which are relevant to the Central Intelligence Agency as an organization; and explores the relationships of the communications media and public opinion with the executive branch of the U.S. Government in general and with CIA in particular.

SCOPE NOTE

ENVIRONMENTAL CRISIS

A concerned and knowledgeable speaker will provide a balanced view of the nature and magnitude of the environmental problem in the United States. He will define the parameters of the problem and offer his views on the sources, nature and degree of ecological danger and the means which might be taken to reduce this danger. He will also analyze the energy crisis in terms of available resources versus the need for environmental control.

SCOPE NOTE

TRENDS IN NATIONAL PRIORITIES

Many segments of American society are uneasy over the quality of American life and are vocal in their demands for changes in US national priorities. A leading political-economist will identify in broad terms the sources and causes of these pressures and will analyze the implications of these attitudes for emerging patterns of national priorities. He will discuss the idiosyncrasies of resource allocation and the impact of continued inflation on income distribution. The presentation will include the speaker's views as to which public policies are likely to be followed or which ones might bring national priorities into conformance with demands for change.

SCOPE NOTE

BLACKS IN US SOCIETY

A scholarly black historian and sociologist will identify contemporary, mainstream black attitudes toward the social, political and economic facets of American life, with particular emphasis upon that period marked by the beginnings of black awareness and activism. Some attention will be devoted to the current and future role and significance of black radicalism and militancy. The discussion will also delve into the ghetto milieu, attitudes of black youth, unemployment among blacks, crime, drugs, welfare, and finally, the speaker's views on the outlook for black-white relationships.

SCOPE NOTE

THE MEDIA, GOVERNMENT AND CIA

A well-known member of the mass media will assess the relationship between the media and the US Government in general and CIA in particular. On the government side, the focus of the analysis will be upon the "adversary relationship" which exists between the press and the executive. Particular attention will be paid to such phenomena as "credibility gaps," news management, "the backgrounder" and government secrecy. He will discuss the media's point of view on reporting classified information affecting "national security" issues and the American people's right to know. The speaker will share his views on the image of CIA among working members of the press and the factors which he sees as forming and affecting this image.

SCOPE NOTE

YOUTH TODAY

US society and its institutions as viewed through the eyes of a young and involved American youth will form the basis of this presentation. The speaker will share his impressions of where America's youth stands today including how he and his peers see American society and its institutions, particularly those aspects which tend to alienate young people. He will focus some attention on the counter-culture sharing his views on where the movement stands today and what its people are doing. He will also provide some insights into the attitudes of youth toward US foreign and defense policy.

SCOPE NOTE

RADICAL POLITICS: THE NEW LEFT

The focus of this analysis will be primarily upon the new left as a domestic US phenomenon. Because of the complexity of the new left, some attention will be given to identifying and defining the many elements which comprise the movement. Included within this discussion will be a brief history of the new left and its ties to the older leftist movements. The speaker will focus, however, on the social and political ills perceived by the members of the new left, the aims of the protest and the methods employed for change. As appropriate, he will consider the ties of the movement to other Western new left movements and to Moscow or Peking.

SCOPE NOTE

THE DRUG CULTURE

A psychiatrist will discuss drug abuse in American society, particularly as it relates to youth--what it is like, who is involved, and the impact of the drug culture on American youth and society. The thrust of his presentation will center on the "whys" of drugs and the role of drugs in the youth movement, rather than on the drug traffic, the substances and their apparatus, or the states of mind produced by the drugs themselves. The speaker will also offer his views on the long term psychological and physiological effects of drug abuse.

ADMINISTRATIVE - INTERNAL USE ONLY

SCOPE NOTE

WOMEN IN U.S. SOCIETY

What it is like to work in the Federal bureaucracy from the perspective of a woman with a distinguished career in Government Service will form the substance of this discussion. She will briefly analyze the recent trends in Federal employment of women, including the number of women employed and the levels and positions held by women, and examine the impact, if any, of recent anti-sex discrimination laws on employment of women. Finally, she will share her own impressions of the problems and frustrations of working in a male-dominated environment.

ADMINISTRATIVE - INTERNAL USE ONLY

SCOPE NOTE

LAW AND SOCIAL CHANGE

A distinguished student of our legal system will discuss the function of the law as a facilitating instrument and as an impediment to social change, with particular reference to the fields of civil rights, crime, and social and economic justice. The speaker will devote particular attention to the legal profession's efforts to bring legal aid to the destitute, the difficulty in defining and dealing with "political crimes," and the impact of the crowded criminal and civil dockets on the "quality of law."